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15 February 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: SMIE 11-2-54: Soviet Capabilities for Attack on the US through 1957

1. SMIE 11-2-54 is a revision of SE-36/1, made at the request of the NSC Planning Board, to bring that recent (August 1953) estimate up to date and to extend it through 1957. The text of SMIE 11-2-54 is substantially identical with that of SE-36/1 except as follows:

a. Incorporation of an entirely new section on nuclear weapons based on the latest JALRO estimate (paragraphs 1-4).

b. Extensive revision and expansion of the section on Soviet long-range aircraft (paragraphs 9-18).

c. The addition of two new paragraphs (28-29) on the estimated scale of Soviet air attack in 1954 and 1957.

2. IAC action on 16 February is necessary to meet the NSC deadline. It was therefore necessary to reproduce the present text before paras. 28 and 29 could be fully coordinated. However, agreement has now been reached on para. 29, obviating the footnote, and it is likely that agreement will be reached on para. 28 before the IAC meeting.

3. The SMIE/3-2 footnote on page 11 is not a dissent, but an additional remark in which AFMIB was unwilling to join. In these circumstances the Board considers the footnote desirable and proper.

4. Except as noted above, the present text is fully agreed at the representatives' level.

5. The present text contains no brief statement of conclusions. SE-36/1 had none because it was found that any such statement required so many qualifications that it began to rival the text in length. At the request of General Willson another attempt

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to devise such a statement was made, with like result. The representatives agree that in view of the special purpose of this estimate brief conclusions are unnecessary and inadvisable.

6. It is agreed that the dissemination of this estimate, like that of SA-36/1, should be strictly limited to the EIC, the IAC agencies, and the RUSA.

JENNIFER KENT
Assistant Director
National Estimation

LM:PAB:ls

Distribution:

Addressee - Cys 1 thru 4

Mr. Montague - Cy 5

Mr. Gline - Cy 6

AD/RE - Cys 7 and 8

✓ R.Ra. - Cy 9

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